

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Entry of the present Amendment is respectfully requested. By means of the present Amendment, typographical errors have been corrected in Claims 1 and 4, Claim 11 has been canceled and new Claim 14 has been added incorporating the patentable features of Claim 1 set forth in the reasons for allowance, section 9 of the Examiner's March 14, 2007 Office action. Accordingly, no new issues have been presented by this Amendment and entry thereof is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-10, 12, 13 and 14 remain in this application. Claim 11 has been canceled.

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the Examiner's allowance of Claims 1-10, 12 and 13.

In the final Office action the Examiner objected to the disclosure for lacking section headings under 37 CFR 1.77(b). Applicants respectfully traverse this objection. Applicants prefer not to add section headings, for consistency with applications in other patent offices. Such section headings are not statutorily required for filing a non-provisional patent application under 35 USC 111(a), but

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Reply to final Office action of Mar. 14, 2007

per 37 CFR 1.51(d) are only guidelines that are suggested for applicant's use. They are not mandatory, and in fact when Rule 77 was amended in 1996 (61 FR 42790, Aug. 19, 1996), Bruce A. Lehman, Assistant Secretary of Commerce and Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, stated in the Official Gazette:

"Section 1.77 is permissive rather than mandatory. ... 1.77 merely expresses the Office's preference for the arrangement of the application elements. The Office may advise an applicant that the application does not comply with the format set forth in 1.77, and suggest this format for the applicant's consideration; however, the Office will not require any application to comply with the format set forth in 1.77."

See Miscellaneous Changes in Patent Practice, Response to comments 17 and 18 (Official Gazette, August 13, 1996) [Docket No: 950620162-6014-02] RIN 0651-AA75.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection to the specification is respectfully requested.

The Examiner objected to Claim 11 for an informality in that the word "and" was omitted from the end of line 5.

This objection is moot in view of Applicant's cancellation of Claim 11.

In the Office action, Claim 11 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,082,013 (Suzuki). In response, Claim 11 has been canceled, without prejudice, and new Claim 14 has been added. New Claim 14 includes the patentable features of allowed Claim 1 as recited in section 9 of the Office action, related to the reasons for allowance, and thus should be allowable. Applicant respectfully submits that new Claim 14 is patentable over Suzuki for, at least, the reasons set forth (with respect to Claim 1) in Applicant's response to the Examiner's September 26, 2006 Office action.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that new Claim 14 is allowable and that the present application is in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Claims 1 and 4 have been amended to correct typographical errors, In Claim 1 "...first a spring means..."

is changed to "...first spring means..." In Claim 4 "...as claimed in 1..." is changed to "...as claimed in claim 1..."

If any informalities remain, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned in order to expedite allowance.

Please charge any fee deficiencies and credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 14-1270.

Respectfully submitted,

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